GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:31
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
PACKAGE FOR INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has announced any package for increasing agricultural production and productivity;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes finalized alongwith the benefits likely to accrue therefrom; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 31 DUE FOR REPLY ON 13TH AUGUST, 2007.

(a): Yes, Sir. In pursuance of the resolution adopted in the 53rd meeting of the National Development Council on Agriculture and related issues held on 29th May 2007, the Government of India is in the process of formulating two schemes on increasing agricultural production and productivity in the country. These two proposed schemes are the National Food Security Mission (NFSM) and Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACA).

(b) & (c): The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Food Security Mission is being formulated to enhance the production and productivity of rice, wheat and pulses in the country. The Mission is proposed to be implemented in identified districts of the country with 100% funding by the Government of India for assistance for demonstration of improved production technology, distribution of quality seeds of high yielding varieties and hybrids, popularization of newly released varieties etc.

In addition, Government of India is also working on an Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACA) to incentivise the States to increase agricultural funding for enhancing agricultural production and productivity. The states are to prepare State and district agriculture plan for their agricultural sector more comprehensively and to ensure the baseline share of agriculture and allied sector in its total State plan expenditure to avail the assistance under Additional Central Assistance Scheme (ACA).

Besides accruing income to farmers and ensuring food security to the people through increased production and productivity, the National Food Security Mission envisages additional production of rice, wheat and pulses by 10, 8 and 2 million tons respectively by 2011-12. The proposals are being accorded the highest priority for early implementation.